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The Kenyon Collegian

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Kenyon faces back-to-back power outages leading into break

TOMMY JOHNSON
NEWS EDITOR

On Nov. 15, juniors expected to register for classes. As it turns out, the weather, which resulted in a power outage on northern parts of campus, had other plans. When juniors again tried to register at 7 a.m. the next morning, a second power outage continued to thwart their attempts.

From roughly 8 a.m. to just before 3 p.m. on Thursday, the power went out on North Campus after a tree fell onto power lines on Chase Avenue, north of downtown Gambier.

The power cut out again from roughly 12:30 a.m. Friday morning to 5:15 p.m. Friday afternoon as a result of a larger problem with American Electric Power (AEP) transmission lines north of town, according to Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman.

The outage affected the east and north sides of Mount Vernon as well, including Apple Valley and businesses on the furthest east part of Coshocton Avenue, according to reporting from the *Mount Vernon News*.

Throughout the day, students would receive updates through the College's text and email alert system. The Kenyon Bookstore, the Gund Gallery and Peirce Hall remained operational in a limited capacity from generator power. All classes, with the exception of film classes in the Wright Center, were cancelled.

According to President Sean Decatur, the decisions that students received via text were from the Kenyon Emergency Preparedness Team (KEPT), a group of senior staff members including Vice President

for Student Affairs Meredith Bonham '92 and Susan Morse, President Decatur's chief of staff. This team includes members from the offices of Campus Safety, Facilities and Communications, as well as other key senior staff members. This group was ultimately responsible for decisions regarding class cancellations and sending home non-essential staff.

KEPT convened over the phone roughly every two hours from 6:30 a.m. until power returned to campus, according to Bonham. Those who were on campus met in person. Despite KEPT's efforts to stay up to date, Decatur said AEP was slow to provide updates to the College.

"The challenge in this particular case is that the power company held all of the information and really all of the details of how things were progressing," Decatur said. "So the initial word from the power company was that everything would be back up before noon and then as the day went on, that kept getting pushed back over time."

Since College officials were not entirely certain what the status of the power outage was, Kohlman said that they were planning for the event that power stayed out overnight. For students who were still on campus, they planned to relocate them to the dorms on South Campus that had steam power and thus could remain heated: Old Kenyon, Hanna, Leonard, Manning and Bushnell.

At 4:01 p.m., the College sent out an alert informing students of "important changes to operations overnight," highlighting the need for students to prepare to relocate to these spaces either by staying in a friend's room or by sleeping in one of the buildings' common rooms.



Students charge devices. | ARMIYA SHAIKH



Students turn to candles for light. | ARMIYA SHAIKH



A gloomy Peirce | DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON

As of roughly 5:15 p.m., power returned to campus, and a Kenyon College alert via text announced that all residences were to remain open.

According to Kohlman, there was no damage from the outage.

"I would not say that there were any repercussions. I mean,

I think we were lucky that it was the last day before break, so half of the students were already gone," Kohlman said.

During the power outage, Ethan Bradley '20 was giving a tour to prospective students that he said was successful.

Students were shouting out of dorms, telling prospective students to "come to Kenyon," according to Bradley.

"The power outage felt like a rally-around-the-flag effect for the campus, a 'stronger together' kind of thing," he said.

Students react to new protest policy

Senate opens the floor to discuss proposed change.

RONAN ELLIOTT
CIRCULATION MANAGER

For the first time since the Vietnam War, the Kenyon administration is updating its protest policy.

On Nov. 15, Campus Senate hosted an open meeting in Leach Dining Room to discuss the changes. A draft of the new policy had been distributed to the campus via email the day prior, and the meeting was a chance for members of the Kenyon community to voice their thoughts and concerns.

As it currently appears on the school website, Kenyon's protest policy is composed of a single sentence: "Kenyon welcomes and encourages serious discussion on any issue from all points of view, but the College will

not condone behavior that threatens the safety of individuals or is intended to prevent, obstruct or interfere with any of its activities and programs."

Some students worry that this policy gives the administration too much say in what kinds of protests are and are not allowed.

"It's very vague," Delaney Barker '20, student co-chair on Campus Senate, said. "What are 'its activities and programs,' you know? What, does it mean to 'obstruct something?' We wanted to create rules and guidelines to allow students to be able to protest without fear of repercussion."

The new policy was received favorably by the students and faculty in attendance, according to Barker. Several changes were suggested to the draft's wording, primarily to

add clarity to the new regulations. However, the consensus seemed to be that student protests wouldn't look much different under the new policy. "When we discussed the policy in club [Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) at Kenyon], we generally came to an agreement that it wouldn't have a huge impact," Joe DeAngelo '21, co-chair of YDSA, said.

Still, Barker is optimistic that the new policy will fulfill the needs of the Kenyon community.

"I've been with this since the beginning and I really like where it's going," Barker said. "I believe it's the right step for Kenyon and I think it will make protests more equal among students, regardless of their financial background."

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BEN NUTTER

Federal government proposes new regulations for Title IX

Interim guidelines are currently still in place.

HENRY TERHUNE
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 22, 2017, the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) issued interim guidelines pertaining to the enforcement of Title IX, which continue to stand. On Nov. 16 of this year, the DOE proposed new regulations, but it has not yet been determined when they will come into effect. In the face of these changes, the Office for Civil Rights at Kenyon is working to ensure that a just system is in place.

Among the major changes in these new proposed guidelines is the new requirement of a hearing in cases of sexual assault. In this hearing, individuals who served as investigators cannot serve as the adjudicator, nor can the Title IX coordinator. The guidelines also mandate that this hearing must include direct cross-examination — that is, explicit questioning of both parties. This regulation was not present in the previous guidelines.

Also important is that Title IX would no longer apply off-campus, meaning that events that occur between two members of Kenyon’s student body, faculty and staff anywhere that is not on campus, including off-campus study, would no longer be covered by Title IX. Regardless of these changes, Samantha Hughes, Kenyon’s Title IX coordinator, says that the Title IX office is “always going to do what we, as a community, feel is right by all people.”

The guidelines would also significantly change the definition of sexual harassment. The new proposed regulations roughly define sexual harassment as requiring unwelcome sexual conduct as a condition for an aid, benefit, or service, or unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that inhibits a person’s equal access to education programs or activities. This definition does not match the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Title VII) definition, which states

that sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances made in such a way that either employment conditions are on the line, decisions of employment could be made or that create a hostile work environment. Employees of the College would be beholden to two separate definitions of the same term, which could lead to confusion in enforcement, according to Hughes.

President Sean Decatur’s greatest concern is that the new regulations lack clarity and specificity. Specifically, he noted that while the Obama administration’s regulations stated that the standard of proof should be preponderance of evidence, the current administration has, via a lack of specificity, opened up the possibility of schools requiring evidence of a violation beyond any reasonable doubt. Decatur notes that there is no mandate in this regard, and that, as of this time, Kenyon has no plans to change its procedure.

“I don’t envision that impacting our policies and the way that we have operated,” he said.

Once these regulations come into effect, Kenyon will have an as-of-yet undecided amount of time to come into compliance with the federal guidelines. During this process, the Office for Civil Rights would present Campus Senate, Staff Council and faculty with the guidelines that the government would set forth for them to approve.

Much of the information in the proposed new regulations is subject to change until the regulations are finalized, but Hughes wants the Kenyon community to know that the Title IX office is working to be as transparent as possible, and will relay information to campus as it arrives.

The proposed guidelines are currently in a 60-day public comment period. Members of the public may comment on the proposal on the Federal Register website (www.federalregister.gov) until Jan. 28, 2019.

ODEI brings ACLU activist Catalleya Storm to campus

Speaker shares a story of resilience, progress.

EVEY WEISBLAT
NEWS ASSISTANT

On Nov. 27 about 40 students, staff and administrators gathered in Peirce Pub to hear transgender activist and educator Catalleya Storm speak in honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance/Resilience.

Originally scheduled for Nov. 20, Storm’s talk was pushed back a week due to dangerous road conditions.

Storm is a policy associate with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Ohio. The event was sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI), as part of their effort to increase LGBTQ+ specific programming.

“We’ve been trying to make sure that we’re keeping an eye out and staying on the lookout for relevant contemporary LGBTQ+ speakers, both here in Ohio, but also nationally,” Assistant Director of ODEI Timothy Bussey said.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance/Resilience began in 1999 after the death of Rita Hester, who was a transgender woman killed the year prior in Allston, Massachusetts. The day was intended as a vigil to commemorate her along with the countless other trans people whose lives have been cut short by violence, according to GLAAD, an organization that advocates for inclusive coverage of the LGBTQ+ community in the media.

Following tradition, the event started with a moment of silence and recognition to commemorate this year’s victims of anti-trans violence, along with a reading of the identified victims’ names.

Storm’s talk centered around resilience within queer and trans popula-

tions, and the way in which that resilience, especially as demonstrated by older members of the community, is the key to working towards progress for trans people.

In their lecture, Storm emphasized the importance of seeing these victims as individuals with distinct stories. “Not just a name but an actual person,” Bussey said, “with a life, with loved ones and with connections to the community.”

Bussey said that, because of the nature of the topic, the atmosphere at the talk was generally solemn. At the same time, however, he said that Storm’s message inspired motivation and passion in those who attended.

“So I think that, at least from the feedback I heard from students, was that they were really happy that this event happened, they were happy to have the perspectives of Catalleya represented on campus,” Bussey said.

ODEI hopes to bring more intersectional speakers like Storm, a non-binary person of color, to campus, according to Bussey. He said the LGBTQ+ community comprises such a diverse array of identities that it’s important to include all of them when trying to represent that community.

“When we also think intersectionally about things like race, gender, sex, sexuality, ability status, nationality, all of these different categories, that’s a very diverse community,” Bussey said. “And so we’re also trying to make sure to be cognizant of really representing as many different intersectional identities in [as] meaningful a way as possible.”

“We’ve been trying to make sure that we’re keeping an eye out and staying on the lookout for relevant contemporary LGBTQ+ speakers, both here in Ohio, but also nationally.”

**Assistant Director of ODEI
Timothy Bussey**

CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 15 article “Diwali dinner and dance brings festival to Kenyon campus,” the *Collegian* mistakenly credited three photos to Armiya Shaikh ’21. Eryn Powell ’20 took the photos. In that same issue, the article “Kenyon Kernel,” a podcast on what STEM students are up to” stated that one of the topics of the podcast was “storm kestrels.” The topic in question was actually storm petrels, a type of seabird.

The *Collegian* regrets these errors.

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A Medio Camino celebrates publication through craft night

“Papers and Piñatas” event draws attention to Kenyon’s only Spanish-language newspaper.

EVEY WEISBLAT
NEWS ASSISTANT

On Tuesday evening, students gathered in Peirce Lounge to celebrate the new edition of Kenyon’s Spanish-language newspaper, *A Medio Camino*.

The paper was originally set to be published on Tuesday, but as a result of printer errors the publication has been postponed and copies will be available in Peirce today.

“It was a good event, I wish we could’ve had our newspapers here, but we will have them out distributed sometime in the next few days,” Mijal Epelman ’20, editor-in-chief of *A Medio Camino*, said.

The event, titled “Papers and Piñatas,” involved making mini-piñatas, with the hope that students could save the piñatas for finals week, when they could open them to let off steam and get their sugar fix.

Papers and Piñatas was spon-



Sofía Alpízar Román '21 puts together a piñata. | ERYN POWELL

sored by Fun Funds, a source of funding provided to student organizations for hosting campus-wide events.

Epelman said that, for many of the newspaper’s members, piñatas were a central feature of celebrations growing up, yet they are absent from most celebrations at Kenyon. In this way, she said that events like this one give

Latinx students a space to express the culture that they have left behind when they come to Kenyon.

“It does feel really good just to read Spanish, hang out with other Latinx students,” Epelman said. “It’s cool to be with people who have a context similar to yours, when all day it feels like you’re explaining yourself.”

As a way to bridge this discon-



A piñata made from a repurposed bookstore bag | ERYN POWELL

nect, *A Medio Camino* will also be selling pins that give definitions of various Latin American identities. Epelman said she hopes that the pins will spread awareness about the Latinx population on campus.

“We feel lots of Kenyon students don’t know the difference between Hispanic, Chicanx and Latinx identities,” she said.

Epelman also stressed that non-Spanish-speaking students shouldn’t feel excluded from *A Medio Camino*, as the newspaper translates its cover article on the second page.

She invited everyone to come to *A Medio Camino*’s publication events as well.

“I enjoyed it, I think it was a fun crafts night,” she said.

ON THE RECORD

SONIA FRITZ AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER

BETÜL AYDIN
NEWS EDITOR

Documentary filmmaker Sonia Fritz is a professor of literature and cinema studies at the University of El Sagrado Corazón in Santurce, Puerto Rico. She directed “About Bands, Lives and Other Tunes,” which won her the Ariel Award for best documentary and co-directed Chapters 1 and 2 of the PBS series “Latino Americans,” which won a Peabody Award and Imagen Award in 2014. She has directed over 25 documentaries on migration, gender, and art and culture. On Nov. 27, the Center for the Study of American Democracy and the Latinx Studies Concentration sponsored a screening of her film “Community Projects and Migration in the Production of After Maria: The Two Shores” in honor of Puerto Rican Heritage Month.

How did you become involved in filmmaking?

When I studied communications in Mexico City, I started working as a production assistant for a director who was a professor at the university. Then, I freelanced from one job to the other to the other, mainly doing educational stuff, and then I moved to being an editor and producer and we formed a collective of women, Colectivo Cine Mujer. But then I moved to Puerto Rico and started a whole different project, because Puerto Rico is similar to the U.S. in the sense that you have to raise your project and the proposal, you have to get the money for them, and that was very different from Mexico where you could freelance from one job to the other. My first documentary was

on a woman painter, who, for me, was like the symbol of what I was looking in terms of roots in Puerto Rico, like the beautiful landscapes and women inside their homes, but with the contrast of the interior-exterior, and maybe some shadow. And then I was able to do four more features, so I have five feature films, but documentaries are easier to make, like, this one we made in five months.

Out of all your works, do you have a favorite? Why?

I think ‘America,’ the feature film, is one of my favorites — one, because it took me like 10 years to do it. Second, because I think it’s very revealing of the situation of a woman, not only in the Caribbean, but the situation of a woman who has to struggle so much to overcome a bad relationship. I think that’s a universal story, sacrificing to give a better life to their kids. Also because it was very hard to make. We shot it in 18 days and it did really well. It took me literally all over — I was in Turkey in a women’s Film Festival in Ankara, I went to Rabat in Morocco, I went to Spain and to various Latino festivals in the states.

What are some challenges you have encountered as a filmmaker? What is your experience like coming from a minority background?

What I think the main challenge as a woman director is that it’s the world of male. I mean, we’ve seen it with the MeToo movement very obviously, but they trust a man much faster than they trust a woman. So that’s one thing. I really have to fight to pursue my projects but I think the worst challenge is the money because you need money

to do these projects, even if it’s \$40,000. You need the cash to pay people and to move around. So that to me is the hardest part.

Can you talk a little about the project you worked on about the Latino community in Ohio?

I did projects on a Puerto Rican community in Lorain, Ohio, which is the first time that I visited Ohio. I was invited because they have a Puerto Rican Cultural Center, and they wanted to see one of my films. When I traveled, I realized that this is such a well-organized community and they had a story. They had migrated during Operation Bootstrap in the ‘50s, the quality of life was pretty good but they were rejected when they arrived. They had to live in the same steel mill, because they couldn’t live in apartments, they wouldn’t rent it to them. The cafeterias had signs — no dogs or Puerto Ricans allowed. They even screened them — they had to look white, blue eyes, and you find people like that in the mountains. So in the beginning, they were really ostracized, so they had to overcome so much and they were so well organized that I did that piece.

What would you like to film in the future?

I have three projects, two documentaries. Actually, one is in the process and I haven’t found the money to finish it. It’s called ‘Mariachis with Trousers.’ It’s about a group of women mariachis from New York City. They are very diverse, very talented musicians, they do fusion and mariachis. I followed them for three years and now I need to find the money to finish. They won a Latin Grammy and now two of them have babies. So it’s like, the whole story evolved



COURTESY OF SONIA FRITZ

and I haven’t been able to finish it. I’m waiting to see when the moment comes that I can close the project.

Do you have any advice for people who are interested in pursuing film as a career?

To me, the most important thing is to tell the story. Once you tell it, even if it’s not the best camera, the story is there and you’ll get money to develop the next story. There’s so much need for content, visual content, that I think you don’t have to specifically go to work with Hollywood; there’s so many other outlets. So I think just do it. Do it and pursue your dream and work. You do have to concentrate work hard and get organized, but I think for every good job you have to do that.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Ganter-Price Hall welcomes renovated, burrito-ready kitchen

The Alpha Delta Phi fraternity and other student groups will be able to use the new facility.

ELLIE KLEE
STAFF WRITER

Late-night burrito lovers, rejoice: The kitchen of Ganter-Price Hall, commonly known as the Ganter, is in the final stage of its renovation.

The Alpha Delta Phi (AD) fraternity frequently uses the kitchen for philanthropic projects such as their burrito delivery service, the proceeds of which benefit New Directions, a domestic abuse shelter in Mount Vernon.

"The kitchen renovation

will really make that more efficient and allow us to raise a lot more money," AD president Herbie Dittersdorf '19 said.

Dittersdorf and his fellow ADs are looking forward to using the updated space in the coming weeks. "The most exciting thing, for me at least, is the dishwasher ... That's always a whole extra hour of work, scrubbing things," Dittersdorf said.

The kitchen will feature all-new appliances and cabinets, as well as additional storage space. Dittersdorf expressed hope that

the ADs will be able to cook and deliver their burritos more frequently thanks to the updates.

All parts of the Ganter are open for reservation by student groups and individuals. Dittersdorf emphasized that one of his goals as president is to make the Ganter more accessible for casual student use. Students

wishing to reserve the space may contact Kit Fluharty '19.

Kenyon maintenance workers commissioned the kitchen's cabinets shortly after Labor Day, and installation began in early

November. All appliances were installed by Nov. 30. Once workers finish painting the walls, the kitchen will be open for student use.

AD members have been interested in renovating the kitchen for a few years. Dittersdorf credited Fluharty, treasurer Matt Mandel '19, former president Samuel Troper '18 and advisor Kent Woodward-Ginther '92 with leading the project. Alumni paid for the renovation through the fraternity's endowment, which also funded the construction of the Ganter.

"I think it's a great example of alumni continuing to work with student groups, supporting their interests and efforts," Woodward-Ginther said.

"The most exciting thing, for me at least, is the dishwasher.

Herbie Dittersdorf '19



The Alpha Delta Phi's endowment funded the renovation of the kitchen of Ganter-Price Hall. The kitchen will feature new appliances and storage space. | ERYN POWELL

Global Kenyon: Unrest in Paris increases, protests escalate

Protests, first organized online, erupted in November in response to a so-called "green tax."

DEVON MUSGRAVE-JOHNSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Since the now infamous "yellow vest" protests in Paris began in mid-November, at least three people have died, over 100 have been injured and about 400 have been arrested.

What has now turned into riots, marked by burning cars and met by tear gas, began as a simple online petition. According to a Dec. 2 *New York Times* article, the movement that would come to be known as the *gilets jaunes*, or yellow vests, began in the suburbs of Paris when a woman named Priscillia Ludosky started an online petition on Change.org calling for a drop in gas prices.

This came in response to a "green tax" set to go into effect on Jan. 1 of next year, which the French government set in an effort to decrease reliance on fossil fuels. This tax was part of the government's larger goal of reducing carbon emissions by 40 percent by 2030, according to a Dec. 2 article in *Reuters*.

Amid protests over fuel prices, people

have also begun protesting for a higher minimum wage, exam reforms, better working conditions for paramedics and in some cases for French president Emmanuel Macron's resignation. For some, these protests seem reminiscent of growing tensions not just in France but across the globe.

"If you look at what's happening in France with the *gilets jaunes*, it's the exact same reaction that we see with the Trump supporters," said Olivier Seguin P'19, a resident of Strasbourg, France. "The rurals, the farmers, the laborers, the people who feel like they've been left to the side by the elite and the establishment."

While the protests began peacefully, they have quickly escalated to violence over the last three weeks in what the BBC is calling Paris' worst riots "since 1968." According to the *New York Times*, tear gas canisters "littered the city" after weekend protests. One of the people killed during a protest was an 80-year old woman in Marseille who died in the hospital after a canis-

ter hit her in the head.

Protesters from the far left and the far right have joined in the movement as the riots have turned violent and shifted in focus from unease at the new taxes to a general sense of unrest and distaste for Macron's leadership. According to an article published Dec. 3 on NPR's website, the French police force believe that these far-leaning anarchists, known as *casseurs*, are responsible for inciting violence and encouraging vandalism that has left dozens of cars torched and the Arc de Triomphe vandalized.

According to Seguin, the lack of union backing for the protesters may also be a reason for the chaotic nature of the protests. "The institutions are there to protect the population and the citizens. Otherwise you go into chaos. The institutions were here to change things," he

said. "If you start just randomly claiming that you want to take over, but have no plan, you can be sure that it will be chaos, there's no future."

"If you look at what's happening in France with the *gilets jaunes*, it's the exact same reaction that we see with the Trump supporters.

Olivier Seguin P'19

Though the French government has not yet declared a state of emergency as of Dec. 5, Macron recently returned from a summit meeting in Argentina and spent time surveying the damage from last weekend's protests. He initially ordered Prime Minister Édouard Philippe to meet with protesters, but on Dec. 3 the BBC reported that protesters have pulled out of the meetings, citing death threats from hardline protesters. On Dec. 4, The Huffington Post reported that the French government is set to suspend the tax and will potentially raise the minimum wage.

Grant Miner '19 contributed reporting.

Kenyon hosts Native American Heritage Month celebrations

Events highlight literature and cinema, with a focus on LGBTQ+ and Indigenous identities.

NOELLE O'NEAL
STAFF WRITER

A wide range of groups on campus came together to organize events in honor of Native American Heritage month this November, including a reading and workshop by Onondaga author Eric Gansworth, a screening of the documentary “Two Spirits” and a discussion of Qwo-Li Driskill’s book *Asegi Stories: Cherokee Queer and Two-Spirit Memory*.

On Monday, Nov. 12, Gansworth read to a packed Cheever Room. Before the reading, Gansworth explained that when he started out he would frequently send his writing to the *Kenyon Review*, with little hope that it would be accepted. “[The *Kenyon Review* was a] mythical place. Kinda like my Hogwarts,” Gansworth said. In honor of his relationship with the publication, Gansworth began his reading with a poem titled “Engagement,” which was his first work published in the *Kenyon Review*. He read two other pieces: an incomplete work that he described as “a memoir in verse” about his childhood on a Tuscarora Nation reservation and a short story that

will be published early next year. In his reading, Gansworth used personal narrative and numerous pop culture references to address a wide range of topics including, poverty, racism, sibling dynamics and superpowers.

Following his reading, Gansworth answered questions about his use of comic book figures, his different art forms and writing practice. The event had many sponsors: the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI), the Kenyon Review, the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), the Hubbard Chair Fund and Indigenous Nations at Kenyon (INK).

The following day, Gansworth held a workshop for eight students from 9:40 to 11:00 a.m. in Peirce Lounge. During the event, he talked about song lyrics and personal methodology. “[The workshop was] directing us towards ways we could find our own writing processes, he was able to quickly communicate a genuine interest in everyone’s work,” Claire Oleson ’19, who attended the workshop, said. Teahelahn Keithrafferty ’19, co-president of INK, encouraged INK to reach out to Gansworth after read-



Onondaga author Eric Gansworth teaches a writing workshop in the Peirce Lounge. | BEN NUTTER

“[Eric Gansworth] was able to quickly communicate a genuine interest in everyone’s work.

Claire Oleson ’19

ing his book, *Smoke Dancing*, in *Gender and Sexuality in Native American Literature* (ENGL 389), taught by Professor of English Janet McAdams. She described the workshop as “intimate” and focused on developing students’ personal voice.

The ODEI lead two events that explored the intersection between LGBTQ+ and Indigenous identity. The office hosted a documentary screening of the film “Two-Spirits” on Nov. 13. The film examined the cultural significance of two-spirit identity, a modern umbrella term used to describe those who exist

outside of traditional ideas of sex and gender, in Navajo Culture. In addition, on Thursday, November 29 in Lentz House 104, there was discussion about Qwo-Li Driskill’s book.

Timothy Bussey, assistant director of ODEI, led the book discussion. He explained the importance of including narratives from different Indigenous nations: “There is a lot of diversity within the two-spirit community, since this isn’t a monolithic identity,” Bussey said. Prior to the event, free copies of the book were distributed in hard copy and via Kenyon’s website.

During the event, students engaged with the book’s discussion of the effects of European colonization on two-spirit identity. Bussey explained that ODEI was eager to participate in and support November’s events.

To Bussey, the importance of the intersection was clear. “I don’t see how our office could not be involved,” he said. Looking to the future, Bussey hopes to see conversations about queer and trans Indigenous identities continue beyond Native American Heritage month and into the upcoming Queer and Trans Studies Conference, which will occur in April.

<div>CLASS CLASH</div> <div>COMPILED BY DANTE KANTER</div>						
<div><div></div><div>Faculty Total:</div><div>26</div></div> <div><div></div><div>Senior Total:</div><div>17</div></div> <div><div></div><div>Junior Total:</div><div>15</div></div> <div><div></div><div>Sophomore Total:</div><div>17</div></div> <div><div></div><div>First-Year Total:</div><div>16</div></div>						
	Answer	Bruce Hardy	Tyler Guerin '19	Michara Cramer '20	Yoshio Wagner '21	Elijah Newman '22
Name one of the measures being taken by student council to keep dishes in Peirce	Additional seating Grab-n-go options Disposable dishware Dish sets for apartments Removing dish return bins	Removing the dish pick up bins	More retrieval bins	Paper boats	Paper plates	Taking away the little boxes
Which recently released song was the first by a solo female artist to debut atop the Billboard Top 100 since Adele’s “Hello”?	“thank u, next”	“Meow” by Toulie	Ariana Grande, I don’t know	“thank u, next”	Directions? I don’t know.	“thank u, next”
What is the one letter that does not appear in any US state name?	Q	Q	It’s not Q . . . T.	Q	Q	J
As an undergraduate at Kenyon, poet James Wright would routinely mock the editor-in-chief of which Kenyon publication?	HIKA	The Kenyon Review	HIKA	The Collegian	Kenyon Review	Collegiate
		2	1	3	2	2

Language tables offer foreign language practice over dinner

Icebreakers and table conversation create full immersion for language learners of all levels.

JOSHUA LIN
STAFF WRITER

CHE PIEPER
STAFF WRITER

It's hard to know exactly what's going to happen at a language table.

"It's unpredictable," Assistant Professor of Russian Anna Aydinyan said, "because everyone speaks a different amount of Russian."

The tables are open events — meaning the attendees range from native speakers to first years in intensive intro classes to members of the local community who have taken up learning the language as a hobby. Aydinyan feels this adds diversity, but it also makes the events hard to plan.

Still, the dinners are more about fostering a community than hosting a formal, organized activities.

"There aren't many

opportunities to converse in a foreign language outside of a classroom setting, where the vocabulary and speed are pretty constrained to what the class level can understand," Ellie Randolph '21 said. That's what Language Tables offer students — not only the opportunity to practice their language in a controlled way, but also to develop a community.

Although many of the faces around the table change week to week, the language tables are regularly fully packed at

dinnertime. The conversations range from Thanksgiving break plans to foreign films. "We talk about everything that our language level allows," Camille Baxter '21 said. "Usually the first-year speakers will only know how to say certain things: what classes they are taking, where they are from, their favorite food, so we'll ask them questions that they know how to answer. Usually we just end up telling stories, like any other conversation."

The dinners are open to everyone — whether or not they're comfortable with the language. Faculty at the table are careful to make space for those who may not speak the language easily.. "Some-

times we play games," Aydinyan

said. At a recent table, attendees were tasked with identifying a mystery celebrity— one who had been described entirely in Rus-

sian. Still, Aydinyan says, there are challenges. "Often the first years don't have enough Russian, so we just talk."

The community is built from those who keep coming back, and takes steps to encourage new members.

"It can be overwhelming at first to talk to people when you're studying a language," Fulbright Fellow Varvara Bondarenko said, "but once you understand the context of what's being said you become more fluent." (translated from Russian by Dante Kanter)

“There aren't many opportunities to converse in a foreign language outside of a classroom setting.

Ellie Randolph '21



Laura Reidman '22 and other French language students play a memory card game. | ARMIYA SHAIKH



Chinese language students dine and talk together at Chinese table in Lower Peirce. | ARMIYA SHAIKH

Kenyon's Spoon University helps students to dine creatively

School chapter of national online publication shares recipes, Peirce hacks and restaurants.

DANTE KANTER
FEATURES EDITOR

Spoon University, an online publication about campus cuisine written by college students, has 226 chapters in the United States. It's most popular chapters are at New York University and the University of Southern California, schools whose campuses are adjacent to cities with 24,000 and 8,596 registered restaurants, respectively. It's easy at schools like these for a food blog to find content, but for Kenyon's chapter of the publication, the school's rural location has posed a challenge.

"It feels sometimes like we don't have many options," Spoon University editor Bri-

anna Maggard '19 said. "But we do. We just don't quite know how to use them."

Many of the articles up on the Kenyon chapter's website have to do with Peirce Hall — "Your Gluten Free Guide to Peirce" and "5 Members Share their Peirce Food Hacks" are some examples — but in the future, editors Maggard and Catherine Gouchoe '19 want to focus more on dining out, both on and off campus.

"We actually want to highlight Mount Vernon, because there have been so many new restaurants in the past three years that I've been here," Gouchoe said. The duo is also excited about the planned return of the Gambier Deli, as

well as the arrival of a new restaurant, Chilitos Fresh Mex and Margaritas, on Gaskin Avenue.

Since its first meeting this semester, Spoon University has partnered with recreational and food groups on campus to host events, such as host-

ing a food trivia night at the Village Inn as well as a raffle with a prize of either a free meal from Sunday Night Nibbles, a student-led food preparation and delivery service on campus, or a gift card to North Main Cafe, Maggard's favorite

restaurant in Mount Vernon. This Sunday, the organization hosted a workshop that taught students how to prepare three different breakfast recipes with ingredients bought from the Village Market.

In addition to informing students of the food options available to them in Knox County, Spoon University seeks to help students eat

nutritionally with limited resources. "First of all," said Maggard, "utilize Peirce. It's our one dining hall on cam-

pus, and a lot of their ingredients are from local sources."

Gouchoe and Maggard also stress finding the time to prepare your own meals, even if you live in a dormitory with no shared kitchen, which is true of the dorm buildings in the first-year quad. "What we want to promote is creativity on campus," Gouchoe said. "Using your resources as much as you can, even if that means going the extra mile."

According to Spoon University, just because good food might be hard to find doesn't mean it's not there. "Any big city has a guide of how to eat there," said Maggard. "And we like to think about this campus as its own city."

“It feels sometimes like we don't have many options.

Brianna Maggard '19

Sarah Kay shares moving work at 'A Night of Spoken Word'

DYLAN HARTMAN
STAFF WRITER

In the middle of her set on Saturday, Dec. 1, the spoken word poet Sarah Kay began a piece she described as a love poem: "In most of the dreams that I remember from childhood, I am a boy, rescuing a maiden from a tower, or not rescuing anyone in particular, but definitely a boy." Her poem went on to subvert common understandings of gender to tell a personal story of finding and accepting love.

Kay's set headlined "A Night of Spoken Word," hosted by Kenyon Magnetic Voices (KMV) and the Black Student Union. Student poets opened for Kay with spoken word performances of their own. The event was a continuation of KMV's recent efforts to bring

prominent spoken word poets to campus. Marc Delucchi '20, the primary organizer of KMV events, said that Kay — whose performances have earned upwards of 5 million

views on YouTube — would be likely to encourage attendance from members of the community beyond KMV.

"I think she's someone who has a lot of crossover appeal with both spoken word and traditional poetry," Delucchi said. "We thought she would be

a perfect person to try to sort of pull over for that crossover appeal, to bring people who aren't necessarily normally looking at spoken word."

A large crowd gathered in Pierce Pub for the event. "I think at one point we had 160 people in the Pub," Delucchi said.

From the moment Kay walked on stage until the end of her hour-long set, she spoke in a light, warm voice about innocence and goodness framed within the challenges of life.

Much of Kay's performance concerned the process of coping with pain and finding agency in small truths. She often adapted a tone similar to that of an inspirational speaker, a role that aligns with her career as a TED Talk keynote speaker and as the co-director of Project VOICE, a group

of spoken word poets dedicated to using the art of performance to enrich education.

Toward the end of her set, Kay provided words of encouragement to those feeling that they have lost their place in the world. "You have always been the place," she said. "You are the woman who can build it yourself. You were born to build."

Kay's almost constant smile and reassuring declarations lent an inherent degree of positivity to the night,



Virginia Kane '22 shares poetry in Peirce Pub. | ERYN POWELL



Tariq Thompson '21 performs original work. | ERYN POWELL



Sarah Kay, spoken word poet, visits campus. | ERYN POWELL

"I think she's someone who has a lot of crossover appeal with both spoken word and traditional poetry."

Marc Delucchi '20

yet she spent much of her time delving into her personal struggles. Kay's stories contain an ever-present loneliness: "Most of the time in my life I have found that the right words are not there when I need them," Kay said, "and sometimes I wonder if maybe the right words do not even exist yet in our language."

Frequently, humor served to underscore the most painful moments of her poems. In her recount of a breakup that took place inside of a Whole Foods Market, Kay explained her feelings of desperation and frustration through a series of increasingly ridiculous grocery-related puns, which

culminated with the exclamation, "I feel so beet-trayed by you!"

Later, Kay detailed her feelings of weakness in what she described as "an open letter to whoever broke into my rental car and stole my vibrator." Kay paused, then smiled as she said, "I wonder if you use it. I wonder what it means if you do."

Kay ended her set with a portrait of her elementary school principal, a woman who gave all of her students individual attention, excited to talk about their education and inspiration. As she reached the end of the poem, titled "Mrs. Ribeiro," Kay spoke of her own experience as a teacher while us-

ing this approach with her own students. "Show me how many colors you know how to draw with," she said. "Show me how proud you are of what you've learned. And I promise, I will do the same."

Kay also spoke about her experience as a child in New York City after 9/11 searching for a place in which she could feel at home. She found this home in a spoken word performance.

"Every time people have gathered together like this," she said, "I think it is an important and powerful refusal of the powers that are trying to suggest that there is no room for you here, because we insist that there is."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: SHANE WELLS '22

CASSIE COALE
STAFF WRITER

It is a beautiful, uncommonly warm Sunday in December. Shane Wells '22 and I sit outside Wiggin Street Coffee on two Adirondack chairs. He is wearing a jacket studded with dozens of bright pins and patches. As he speaks, his earrings glitter.

"When I first started finding my own music, the first band I was ever into was Metallica," he said. "Around eighth grade I entered a sort of emo/scene phase — I don't trust anyone who didn't — and in high school my friends started introducing me to, like, Andrew Jackson Jihad [now AJJ] and The Mountain Goats, my favorite band of all time."

Now 20, Wells has been writing music since he was 16. At first he released music under the name Jenny Sector, which he also used for the occasional high school drag performance. Now his musical persona is Organs, and he uses it to earnestly tell the stories of his friends. On his most recent released album, *Wounds Heal Here*, almost ev-

ery song is a letter to someone he loves, with a "me" and a "you" in each tender set of lyrics. Although his songs tend to follow the folk-punk format, and are often tinged with melancholy, they have none of folk-punk's occasional dreariness. There are simple acoustic songs, but there are also dissonant, frenetic, electric songs that reverberate from one's speakers. The album is an unexpected puzzle of many different sounds and feelings that somehow fit into each other just so.

Wells describes himself as a "human sponge": someone who takes in the narratives of the people around him. Songwriting is, in a sense, his way of understanding and removing himself from these narratives. For a year and a half before attending Kenyon, he lived on his own in Nashville, where he unloaded trucks at a garden center and later worked as a line cook at a local café.

"I met a lot of very broken people with very intense stories ... I would come home at four in the morning just sad and fried, wanting to put distance between myself and those things," he said.



Shane Wells '22 shares the people and places behind his music. | BEN NUTTER

The music scene of rural Ohio could not be more different from that of Nashville, where, in Wells' words, "there's a really high barrier for entry with music. It's a place people go where they decide 'I want to take my music seriously,' so everyone has kind of a chip on their shoulder."

Wells came to Kenyon to be an English major — searching out some way of honing his ability to tell stories. Kenyon's ragtag, close-knit music scene has been inspirational for him as well. He's even joined the intense

first-year punk band Chocolate For Dogs along with writing and playing his own music.

"Here, it's different," he said. "There are really only three places to play: parties, The Horn and Peirce Pub. There's less competition, and it seems like the people here are a lot more willing to talk and listen. You aren't the 18th person to shove your music under their nose that day."

Wells' punky, lyrical music can be found at woundshealhere.bandcamp.com/releases.

Stagefemmes presents experimental play on life at Kenyon

DAVID W. CARSTENS
STAFF WRITER

Building a work entirely around the actors who will perform it while maintaining even a semblance of narrative structure is an undertaking of epic proportions. Staged on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 in the Black Box Theater, the Stagefemmes-produced *Kankedort* set out to do just that.

Directed by Erica Christie '19 and written by Kate Kremer '11, the play tells the story of several college friends over the course of three years as one character works on a play. It ranges from serious to satirical and from melodramatic to sentimental. It's an unconventional play, likely due to its highly unconventional writing process.

"We met with the playwright — Kate Kremer — for three separate workshops and she wrote the play based on the activities and dialogues we had during those workshops. In the first one, which was early last spring semester, we did some activities she gave us and had conversations about topics she provided," assistant director Mollie Greenberg '19 said. There was a second workshop later in the spring, though the second was conducted over Skype.

"The process was interesting be-

cause the playwright wrote it around the real-life personas of individuals in the play," said Walter Michalski '18, who attended the show Saturday, "and knowing some of them, [the play] was interesting and revealing."

Greenberg elaborated further on the almost yearlong process of producing the play. "Early this semester, Kate visited again and we had a week-end long workshop of her first draft of the script, during which we read through it several times with varying casting, discussed what we heard and later asked clarifying questions," Greenberg said. The feedback and observations from the early readings of the play, as well as the updated casting decisions, further informed Kremer's writing process, resulting in a play that was heavily modeled on the personalities of the cast.

"Some of the language in the play is taken directly from things that the actors and the rest of the devising team said during the devising process, across those three workshops with Kate," Greenberg said.

Writing *Kankedort* was a complex process, and the characters seemed to properly reflect both the actors playing them and Kenyon's liberal arts culture. The word 'Kankedort' originates from Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*, but its



Stagefemmes' cast of *Kankedort* rehearse at the Black Box Theater. | COURTESY OF KIT FLUHARTY

definition is unclear. According to the show's playbill, the title is meant to describe "some deep inner turmoil, a state of suspense, a critical position, an awkward affair." *Kankedort* was a bespoke creation, tailor-made for Kenyon's theater community. Several scenes took place in what was effectively a small party in an North Campus Apartments, during which the cast discussed several hot-topic Kenyon political issues.

The performance featured a minimalist set and took place in a small performance venue. These creative decisions, when paired with the genuine feeling of the characters and acting, made the entire theatrical experience feel exceedingly intimate. The metanarrative elements of the play—the fact that the play is being written by a character in the play, as the play is happening—did not feel needlessly artificial. This in turn, with the occa-

sional attention that the play called to the audience itself, only enhanced this feeling of intimacy.

Overall, *Kankedort* leaves one feeling as though one understands the process that went into its creation, a process that permeates the entire performance and is at the core of the production. "It was certainly an unconventional process," Greenberg said, "and new, as well, for most involved."

JPEGMAFIA shakes up the Horn



JPEGMAFIA rapping as the crowd floods the stage | BEN NUTTER



Logan Whitcomb '20 performing a set as Orderbot | BEN NUTTER

SAM BRODSKY
STAFF WRITER

Thrilling beats. Screaming voices. Gritty verses. These were the sounds of last Friday's JPEGMAFIA show. Dozens of people, many of whom were not Kenyon students, crammed into a sweaty and packed Horn Gallery to hear industrial noise rapper and producer Barrington Hendricks, better known as JPEGMAFIA. His loud, larger-than-life presence cemented his show as one of the most exciting and invigorating Horn performances of the year.

Distinguished by his provocative and aggressive lyrics, glitchy production and punk-esque aesthetic, JPEGMAFIA has become one of rap's biggest up-and-coming names. He released his record *Veteran* in early January to huge praise from Pitchfork, Stereogum and *The Fader*, among other outlets. The massively popular vlogger and music reviewer Anthony Fantano, who gave JPEGMAFIA's *Veteran* a rare 8/10, is also partially responsible for his fame.

The rapper's popularity and success drew quite a crowd: High schoolers from Akron, Ohio, and Oberlin College students showed up; even University of Cincinnati students drove three hours to see the show. According to Logan Whitcomb '20, a Horn sound technician, the Horn had never seen so many people in his time at the venue.

Whitcomb opened the show with a performance under his

stage name, Orderbot. Drawing inspiration from the grimy and dark production of JPEGMAFIA, Whitcomb found it exhilarating to perform for so many audience members, all of whom vibed with his music.

"There was a line starting at 7:45," he said. "That's never happened. At least in my time at the Horn, we have never had so many people in there. The energy was insane."

After Whitcomb's performance, the Chicago-based hip-hop group Dial-Up went on stage. "Bounce, bounce, bounce!" they called out, gesturing toward the large audience. The Horn rattled.

Once JPEGMAFIA finally got on stage, the crowd went wild. Audience members took their shirts off, and others started screaming. Peggy, as he is sometimes called, rocked his head back and forth, swaying his tattoo-covered body to the glitchy beats. At one point his foot went through the table on which he was standing. The rapper had to perform the last song a capella-style with the entire crowd because his computer stopped working; it was too soaked from his own sweat.

Hendricks was born in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, to Jamaican parents. He spent the bulk of his

childhood and mid-teens in rural Alabama, where he says he experienced a significant amount of racism that later influenced his music. At the age of 18, Hendricks joined the Air Force and served for four years in Iraq. Many aspects of his music are taken from his personal life, but he has received criticism for going too far with his lyrics. "I Just Killed A Cop Now I'm Horny," a song from *Veteran*, garnered controversy

“At least in my time at the Horn, we have never had so many people in there.”

Logan Whitcomb '20

for sampling the audio recording of a real murder of a police officer in 1998. "I Cannot F—ing Wait Until Morrissey Dies," which he performed on Friday, has

also received backlash.

Nevertheless, JPEGMAFIA's performance was unparalleled. The Horn Gallery usually books indie/alternative rock bands such as Peach Pit or gobbinjr — groups with quiet instrumentals, soft vocals and gentler lyrics. JPEGMAFIA's off-the-wall, in-your-face, punk-and-rap-fused energy felt like a revelation to students. To share his performance with other fans made the experience even more special.

Near the end of the show, in between songs, JPEGMAFIA stopped to speak. "I have to say, this has to be one of the best shows I've done in the last five years," he said. "Y'all are crazy."

Rapper, hip-hop group and student musician gave striking sets.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Middle Path can't hold its ground to cold

We all know the image that graces most promotional material for the school: the College Gates, perfectly centered, framing the red and orange tree-lined Middle Path.

How different would that image be if Middle Path was made of something other than mud, dirt and pebbles? The prospect of paving Middle Path has been a contentious issue for years. In 2011, Chief Business Officer Mark Kohlman said that Middle Path was “never going to be paved,” according to a *Collegian* article from that October. In December, the *Collegian* staff called for the College to pave Middle Path “to stand in solidarity with past, current and future students with disabilities” in an editorial. Seven years later, we are reiterating that call.

Each year, as the heavy rains of early winter fall upon the campus, Middle Path turns into an obstacle course of puddles and mud patches that even the most able-bodied students may struggle to navigate. When students arrive back in January for spring semester, the pathways are often icy and dangerous.

Concrete is ugly and tradition is important, but mud is uglier and safety is more important. To be clear, we are not advocating for Middle Path to be paved over in a way that detracts from its character; there are ways to make paved pathways look like gravel. Or, maybe there are ways to maintain the aesthetic of the path while also maintaining the structural integrity of the ground beneath our feet. Either way, something needs to be done about Middle Path.

The staff editorial is written weekly by editors-in-chief Cameron Messinides '19 and Devon Musgrave-Johnson '19, managing editor Grant Miner '19 and executive director Matt Mandel '19. You can contact them at messinidesc@kenyon.edu, musgrave-johnsond@kenyon.edu, minerg@kenyon.edu and mandelm@kenyon.edu, respectively.

The opinions page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writer. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the *Collegian* staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editor.

The *Kenyon Collegian* reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The *Collegian* cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or fewer. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The *Kenyon Collegian* prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.



THE LOOMING BEAST OF FAST-APPROACHING
DEADLINES HAS COME TO CALL.

ANNA ZINANTI

Preventing gun violence is not ‘politically convenient,’ but it remains chiefly important

Gun violence still looms as a pressing issue in present-day America.

JESSIE GOROVITZ
CONTRIBUTOR

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, my class on American government begins with a discussion of current events. On Friday, Nov. 7, we discussed which party won the midterms. But on Wednesday night before class, a shooter had opened fire in a bar in Thousand Oaks, Calif., killing 12 people. One of the victims was a survivor of the Las Vegas shooting. No one, including my professor, mentioned this shooting. Just as I was about to bring it up, we transitioned away from discussing current events and began talking about the structure of the American presidency.

My experience in class was indicative of the American condition. Another shooting, another day. Back to talking about the president. We have become so desensitized to the level of violence that occurs in our country that it does not even merit a mention in conversations about current events. Our collective failure to act on, let alone discuss, the consequences of American gun culture and the Second Amendment has cost the lives of thousands of Americans.

We are abdicating our responsibility to our fellow citizens when we accept that 91 people die every day from guns in this country. Relative to other countries, we do not have a disproportionately high number of mentally ill people. We do not have a disproportionately

high number of extremists. What separates us from every other developed nation in the world is the sheer number of guns that exist in this country and the ease with which they can be acquired.

Surviving one shooting in this country only to be killed in another should not be the price of freedom. As a country, we are morally responsible for these deaths. There is blood on all of our hands for failing to make clear to our elected officials that we will not tolerate this level of violence. Generation after generation of Americans has looked the

other way because admitting the truth about guns in America is politically inconvenient. After every shooting, I see a plethora of Facebook posts saying, “Enough is enough!”, “The buck stops here!”, “How can we let this happen?”, because taking a stand on Facebook is politically convenient. But a week and a half later, we let it happen again.

If we really believe this level of violence to be unacceptable, we must do more than hold vigils, say prayers and call our representatives in Congress. We must be willing to take politically inconvenient stances and defend them publicly. It is clear to me that no one in power will take any legitimate, concrete steps to reduce gun violence in America. It is up to us, the

“youth,” to solve this problem. After all, we are the ones who have had our entire upbringing defined by mass shootings, of which we are frequently the targets. Our political calculation is different. We are weighing the inconvenience of taking a controversial stance with the inconvenience of getting shot, and for us, getting shot is a more pressing concern.

We are the next generation of civic leaders, and we have to make preventing these deaths a priority. Wherever we live in the country, whatever the prevailing sentiment, we cannot continue to push

gun violence to the sidelines out of fear that any stance on guns is an unpopular one. The onus is on us to convince our communities that taking a bold stance on gun violence prevention is necessary to prevent deaths like this from occurring right in our own backyard. And we need to turn the tables, to make it politically inconvenient for anyone to oppose gun violence prevention. We can do this by voting out politicians who fail to support policies that are proven to save lives and by running for office ourselves. Until that happens, nothing will change.

Jessie Gorovitz '20 is a political science major from Berkeley, Calif. You can contact her at gorovitzj@kenyon.edu.

“We must be willing to take politically inconvenient stances and defend them publicly.”

‘Lord’ and ‘Lady,’ as mascots, stereotype and divide campus

EMMERSON MIRUS
STAFF WRITER

When I first received my acceptance letter for Kenyon, almost everything about the school seemed perfect. I loved the beauty of the campus, the history and companionship of the swimming and diving team and the intimacy and rigor of Kenyon students’ academic life. However, one aspect of Kenyon struck me as off-putting: My new, defining mascot was a “Lady.” That moniker didn’t fit me — as an individual or as a student-athlete.

I think it’s time to discuss the Kenyon community’s continued use of the labels “Lords” and “Ladies.” While one-third of students at Kenyon participate in varsity athletics, it’s an important discussion to have

not only within the athletic sphere, but also as an inclusive and progressive campus on the whole. As of 2015, 95 schools among all colleges and universities in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) used gendered mascots to differentiate men’s and women’s athletic teams — many of which use “Lady” (or some form of that word) to signify women’s sports.

Fundamentally, gendered mascots emphasize the difference between men’s and women’s sports teams, prioritizing an athlete’s gender — and the gendered expectations that go along with it — over their efforts in their sport. It’s also important to recognize that nearly all gendered mascots, such as the “Lady Vols” women’s basketball team at the University of Tennes-

see, only use gendered language to refer to women’s teams. Mascots for women’s teams are generally just feminized versions of the college or university’s “standard” mascot. This reinforces the notion of men’s athletic teams as the “standard,” broadening the rift in equality we see between men’s and women’s sports at intermediate, collegiate and professional levels.

Kenyon’s own mascots, the Lords and Ladies, carry similar and ultimately damaging gendered connotations, even if they sometimes do so subconsciously. Because they are used to designate gender, the labels of “Lord” and “Lady” bear gendered images that are then linked to the object of that label. Although both hold a sense of regality, “Lord” further connotes elitism, power

and superiority, but “Lady” implies decorum, softness and, ultimately, subservience to a lord. Moreover, the two categories, Lord and Lady, reinforce the gender binary, implying that there is nothing in between.

Now that I’ve spent over a year as a swimmer on Kenyon’s women’s team, I know that being a Lady means so much more than these sexist, antiquated stereotypes. The Kenyon Ladies, as I know them, have reclaimed many of the connotations of their label. We are classy and proudly feminine. But we are also many things that complicate the traditional gender stereotypes of a “Lady”: We are loud and messy; strong and fierce; dominant and independent. Although Kenyon students and student-athletes write their own significance into the la-

bels “Lords” and “Ladies,” the social and historical implications of these epithets eclipse the more substantive nuances we give to them.

I acknowledge that we selected the names “Lords” and “Ladies” to pay homage to the second Lord Kenyon, who, along with Lord Gambier, gave Bishop Philander Chase the funds to inaugurate a new seminary in Ohio. Still, I think there are ways that we at Kenyon College can simultaneously celebrate our past and create a more equitable future for gender on this campus. Changing our mascots could be just the thing to get the wheels turning.

Emmerson Mirus ’21 is a Spanish and sociology major from Madison, Wis. You can contact her at mirus1@kenyon.edu.

CROSSWORD

Cameron Austin
Opinions Editor

- Across
1. Pothole

4. _____ or No _____, game show for lucky guessers

8. Like food options in Gambier

14. Raw minerals

15. Heaviest fencing sword

16. Parabola and hyperbola

17. Prefix for “mouse,” to signify a bird

18. French apocalyptic visionary

20. Asbestos or burning plastic, for example

22. tnediserp tsenoH

23. Annual event, when the Great Hall becomes its Hogwarts counterpart

26. Fashion designer Ford

27. Spring holiday spelled backward, continued on 19-Down

28. Northern Irish guerilla

31. “I _____ you one”

34. More cautious

38. Indonesian music performing group, this past Tuesday

43. Surname of *Unbreakable* Kimmy Schmidt’s Titus

44. Goblin

45. Predecessor of JFK

46. Study abroad, usually

49. Friday night Ballroom event, continued
- on 61-Across

57. Epoch

58. Crib, in the 2000s

59. Considering

61. See 49-Across

66. “Harper Valley _____,” by Jeannie C. Riley

67. To package

68. This and _____

69. For each

70. To go above and beyond

71. Pig mamas

72. Globe or crystal ball
- Down
1. Military training at 63-Down, say

2. First husband of Bathsheba

3. Vivid aquarium fish

4. *The Godfather Part II* actor Robert

5. Christopher Columbus, to the capital of Ohio

6. Greek fable-maker

7. De-stress

8. Gives like a scrooge

9. Pea residence

10. Serbian tennis player Ivanovic

11. Frosted

12. Deep-sea diving

13. Typical college assignment

19. See 27-Across

21. Obsolete TV component

24. Lack of difficulty

25. Stack of papers

28. Baker’s _____, Mount Vernon grocer

29. Dashed
30. Intel competitor
31. Roman numeral I
32. United in matrimony
33. Hammock brand
35. J. Edgar Hoover’s playground
36. The _____ and the Vine
37. Member of the House, for short
39. Children’s author Carle
40. Mythological mischief-maker
41. “I so agree!”
42. Nasal mucus
47. Trunks
48. Abode of 71-Across
49. Kenyon Greek organization *in absentia*
50. “Isn’t,” for plural nouns
51. Detective Drew, to Ned Nickerson
52. Outdated vehicular navigator
53. Units of power
54. Potato paradise
55. Perfect animal for a Christmas present, according to one song
56. March in
60. Dress
62. To say, “blah, blah, blah”
63. Biggest Ohio university
64. Brief moment of capitalism in early Soviet Union
65. Like salad bar vegetables

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13	H	A	L	A	L		14	C	I	A	O		15	C	O	N	E
16	E	R	O	D	E		17	C	O	L	O	R	I	Z	E	S	
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29	B	I	A	N	N	U	A	L	33				34	T	O	R	I
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39	S	T	A	B				40	T	O	F	U	R	K	E	Y	
42	H	O	B		43	P	V	C		46	N	O	B				
				47	P	E	I	R	C	E	G	I	V	I	N	G	
53	A	P	P	E	A	S	E	R		56	S	L	I	V	E	R	
57	T	O	A	D	S	T	O	O	L			59	A	D	O	R	E
60	O	K	R	A		61	A	L	O	E		62	N	E	R	D	Y
63	P	E	E	L		64	S	E	N	D		65	T	O	Y	S	

Congrats to Brent Matheny ’19 and Oubadah Alwan ’19 for submitting a correct solution to last week’s puzzle!

Did you finish this crossword? Email a photo of your finished crossword to collegian@kenyon.edu for a chance to get a shoutout!

Lords soccer finishes no. 10

DYLAN GOODWIN
SPORTS EDITOR

On Nov. 16, the Lords soccer team traveled to Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio to play in the third round of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament. In a heartbreaking end to the season, the Lords fell to Case Western in a penalty shootout, 2-2 (5-4). Just 11 days later, Bret Lowry '19, David Anderson '19 and Brice Koval '19 were selected to the United Soccer Coaches All-Great Lakes Region Team. Lowry and Anderson were then selected to the United States Coaches Second Team All-America. This is all on top of Lowry winning the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Defensive Player of the Year Award and Anderson winning the NCAC Midfielder of the Year Award. Just yesterday, the final United States Coaches Division III poll of the year was released. The Lords finished at No. 10 in the country, marking the sixth straight season Kenyon's finished the season in the top 25.

Track and field starts season at Mount Union

The Lords and Ladies donate toys and compete in weekend events.

Lords

DAVID COSIMANO
STAFF WRITER

Last Saturday, the Lords track team traveled to Alliance, Ohio to kick off their season at the University of Mount Union's Toy Drive Collegiate Invitational. The Lords had solid finishes in several of the field events during the meet.

The top performer for the team was Tanner Orr '19. Orr placed eighth overall in the long jump with a mark of 20 feet, 3.5 inches. Another strong performance for the Lords came from Jordan Potter '19, who finished in 10th place in the shot put. Potter's final throw on the day was recorded at 43 feet, 1.75 inches. Rounding out the top performances for the Lords in the field events was Ifeatu Menakaya '21, who placed 17th in the weight throw with a distance of 29.5 feet.

In the running events, Kevin

Towle '19 ended the day with some of the top finishes for the team in several events; he finished 11th in the 400-meter dash with a time of 53.62 seconds and took 16th place in the 200-meter dash where he crossed the line with a time of 24.11.

Looking ahead, the team will travel to Wooster, Ohio to compete in the North Coast Athletic Conference Tri Meet at the College of Wooster on Jan. 19, 2019.

Ladies

JACKSON WALD
STAFF WRITER

Ladies track and field started their season on Sunday in Alliance, Ohio by competing in the University of Mount Union's Toy Drive Collegiate Invitational. Kenyon has competed in this event for the past three years, and because it's a charity event, each team donates toys to the City of Alliance Fire Department Toy Drive.

The Ladies had a variety of high finishes throughout the event. Duffy Lemire '21 placed fifth in the high jump, finishing with a mark of 1.50 meters. Anna Barrett '22 placed ninth in the high jump, recording a mark of 1.40 meters.

In the women's 200-meter final, two Ladies placed in the top 15. Abby McCarty '22 placed 12th, with a time of 28.72 seconds, while Caitlyn Haas '20 placed 15th with a time of 29.10 seconds. Both McCarty and Haas were within three seconds of the top time, posted by Walsh University first-year Juanita Gray.

In the 400-meter final, Haas placed ninth with a time of 1:06:44. McCarty placed sixth in the 60-meter dash in a time of 10.20 seconds.

The Ladies' next event will be on Jan. 19, where they will compete in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Tri Meet. This event will be held at Wooster College, and begin at 12 p.m.

Ladies basketball starts season with a four-game win streak

Paige Matijasich '20 scores an average of 15.0 points per game, leading the team early on.

MARLI VOLPE
STAFF WRITER

The Ladies basketball team played three games leading up to Thanksgiving. They went 3-0, including a conference win against Wooster to start the year. After eight games, the Ladies have a 5-3 record going into the bulk of their season.

On Nov. 20, the Ladies basketball team played a strong game and defeated Muskingham with a final score of 65-54. Muskingham started the game off hot, scoring the first eight points of the game and even extending its lead to 17-5 and then 21-12 by the end of the first quarter. However, Sharon Hull '19 earned the Ladies their first lead with a score of 32-31. Before the next two minutes were done, Jessica Gerber '19 made a layup, ending the second quarter with the Ladies in front with a score of 34-32. The Ladies triumphed at the end of the fourth quarter to win the game.

The Ladies then played the University of Mount Union and were smothered by the Purple Raiders in a tough loss. The team fell behind in the very beginning while Mount Union began with 8-0 lead and continued to force four Kenyon turnovers, as well as two missed shots. Paige Matijasich '20 ended the game with 15 points scored and nine rebounds, but the Purple Raiders finished the game by scoring seven points in the final quarter.

The loss was followed by a triumphant win against the Denison University Big Red in which Kenyon finished with a final score of 55-45. Leading Kenyon again was Matijasich, who tied for the game-high with

14 points and eight rebounds. Gerber earned 12 points while Lane Davis '19 showed a strong second-half performance with eight points, nine rebounds and three assists. Finishing strong with the team's contributors was Hull who added on eight points, six boards, three steals and three assists.

On Dec. 1, the DePauw University Tigers came out on top at the end of their game against the Ladies, but Kenyon stayed strong as the game ended in a close final call, 45-42. Hull gained a game-high and season-high 17 points on 7-of-11 shots. Davis added an additional 11 points, seven rebounds, and two blocks. Throughout the entirety of the four quarters, neither team held a lead bigger than five points. DePauw, which is ranked 20th in the WBCA, fought back in the final third quarter, gained two turnovers and was able to score

four more to take a lead into the final period. In the final six minutes, DePauw's Sydney Kopp gave the Tigers the lead with a score of 41-40, and Maya Howard added two free throws to ice the game.

Last night, Kenyon travelled to Oberlin College to take on the Yeowomen where they fell by a score of 51-47. It was a close, hard fought game throughout with both teams trading buckets. The problem for the Ladies was their inefficient shot percentage, which was 24.6 percent on a total of 69 shots. However, Matijasich led the team in scoring once again with her 15 points on five made shots. She also tallied 10 rebounds to give her the double-double.

Kenyon's next game is this Saturday, Dec. 8, in Springfield, Ohio where they will take on the Wittenberg University Tigers.



Jessica Gerber '19 dribbles while looking for an outlet. | SEJIN KIM



Paige Matijasich '20 shoots free throws after the foul. | SEJIN KIM

Lords and Ladies swim teams dominate TPSC Invitational

Lords

JOE WINT
STAFF WRITER

The Lords swimming and diving team had a strong showing this past weekend, winning the overall team event at the Total Performance Sports Camp (TPSC) Invitational held at home. Kenyon finished with a team total of 3,124 points and was trailed by Carnegie Mellon (1996.5) and New York University (1877.5), which finished in second and third respectively.

Connor Rumpit '20 came up big, securing his season best with a time of just 15:34.43 in the 1,650-yard freestyle race. Mick Bartholomew '20 also had a strong outing in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:46.70, and Grant Thompson '21 followed close behind and finished in third.

Tommy Weiss '20 also had an incredible weekend and won the 100 freestyle with a time of 44.73. Weiss was trailed by four of his fellow teammates, including David Fitch '21, Cole McMahon-Gioeli '21, Joe Black '22 and Robert Williams '19, who secured the top five finishes.

Bartholomew won his second individual victory of the invitational as he came in with a qualify-

ing time of 2:00.25 in the 200-yard breaststroke with Luis Weekes '22 and Kieran Allsop '20 following Bartholomew. The margin of victory extended after the 400-yard freestyle relay led by Fitch, Black, McMahon-Gioeli and Weiss. The team noted a time of 2:58.71 and acquired Kenyon's fifth win of the evening.

The Lords look forward to a relaxed schedule over the next month. The team will travel to Venice, Florida for their annual winter trip on Jan. 3, 2019.

Ladies

JORDY FEE-PLATT
STAFF WRITER

After their second-place finish at the Malone Invitational, the Kenyon Ladies swimming and diving team was in complete control as they coasted to victory at the Steen Aquatics Center in Gambier, Ohio. Kenyon hosted the TPSC Invitational over the weekend, a three-day event, and had most of their success on Saturday.

The Ladies achieved five event victories on the day, and the top three finishers in three of these events were all wearing the purple-and-black. In the 200-yard backstroke, Crile Hart '21 set a meet record with a time of 1:57.35, passing Ohio State University Buckeye Mari-

anne Kahmann's record set last year.

Five seconds later, three Kenyon Ladies came to the line right behind her. Delaney Ambrosen '19, Caitlin Foley '19 and Kaitlyn Griffith '21 all finished within a half second of each other. All of the top four finishers qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tourna-

ment with these times. The 100-yard freestyle proved to be another enor-

“Teams that are resilient and love to race are teams that can be successful in any situation.”

Head Coach Jess Book

mous victory for the hosts. Eight of the first 10 places were Ladies, including the champion Abby Wilson '19 (50.43). These individual performances yielded a point total of 2,721.5 for the team, over 500 points

ahead of the closest competitor, New York University.

“I was most proud of our joy for racing and our resiliency over the weekend,” head coach Jess Book said. “Teams that are resilient and love to race are teams that can be successful in any situation.”

Kenyon will look to continue their success as they head into a key stretch of the season, with a meet in Venice, Florida in less than a month and the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships not too far off on the horizon.



Patrick Olmstead '21 finished fifth in the 400-yard individual medley in TPSC Invitational. | SEJIN KIM

Lords basketball season is off to a rocky start

CHRIS ERDMANN
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon men's basketball team had an unfavorable 0-8 start to their 2018 season.

The Lords played their season opener at Tomsich Arena against Geneva College traveling from Beaver Hills, Penn. The Lords ended up falling to Geneva College 72-57. The Lords had strong play from both Matt Shifrin '19 and Carter Powell '20. Shifrin put up a game-high 16 points along with two assists while Pow-

ell had a game-high 16 rebounds and contributed 12 points.

Kenyon then traveled to Albion, Mich. for the Albion College Tournament, where they took on Trine University and Albion College. In the game against Trine, they struggled to get their shooting stroke, only shooting 35.7 percent from the field and 27.5 percent from outside the arc. Alex Cate '20 was the leading point scorer for the Lords with 10 points. Powell also contributed with nine points and nine rebounds. The final score was 79-53 in favor of Trine.



Carter Powell '20 grabs one of his 14 rebounds. | SEJIN KIM

In the following game against Albion College, Shifrin and Elijah Davis '22 both scored 11 points for the Lords, but they were outmatched by Albion. The final score ended 112-61.

The team traveled back to the Hill in order to take on Earlham College during Thanksgiving break. It was a back-and-forth affair all the way until the end, but a late run by the Quakers in the final minutes ended up sealing the victory for Earlham. Shifrin scored a team-high 17 points, while Powell shot 50 percent from the field and added 12 points. Kenyon fell 69-59.

Their first match following Thanksgiving break, Nov. 26, saw the Lords host Westminster College. It was a tough first half for the Lords that saw them put up a 24.2 shooting percentage from the field. They got back into the game in the second half, bringing the differential to as little as three points. After the comeback was almost complete with 4:06 left in the game, the Lords were not able to secure another basket, leaving them to be defeated 67-56. Shifrin finished the game with a double-double: 18 points and 11 rebounds.

On Nov. 28, they began conference play against The College of Wooster, who came into the contest ranked 16th in the country, according to D3Hoops.com. The final score was 90-70 in favor of the Fighting Scots. Kenyon started out the game strong with Kamal Aubakirov '22 scoring

11 points in the first 13 minutes and going 3-5 from three-point range. The Scots got themselves into the game and commanded the lead for the rest of the contest. Aubakirov led the Lords in scoring with 17 points. Davis also finished with 13 points.

The next opponent for the Lords was DePauw University. The team got off to a hot start by leading by as much as 11, but it was short-lived. The Tigers fought back to take the lead before going into halftime. In the second half, the two teams went back and forth, but the Tigers free-throw shooting proved to be the divider. Shifrin had a monster night by tallying a career-high 34 points, beating his previous record by 11 points. But this was not enough to overcome the Tigers, as the final score was 83-75.

Thursday night, Kenyon took on the Yeomen from Oberlin College where they fell by a score of 84-69. Davis led the team in scoring with 23 points.

“With each coming game the improvement that our team is making is noticeable,” Tim Black '19 said. “Every team we have played are good teams that would do well in our league. We are getting better, and we should be competitive in our league.”

The Kenyon men's basketball team will continue to play conference foes when they travel to Granville, Ohio to take on the Denison University Big Red on Dec. 8 at 8 p.m.

Weekly Scores		
Women's Basketball		
11/14	WOOSTER	66
	KENYON	87
11/17	KENYON	58
	GROVE CITY	44
11/18	KENYON	65
	WILMINGTON	57
11/20	MUSKINGUM	54
	KENYON	65
11/25	MOUNT UNION	56
	KENYON	39
11/28	DENISON	45
	KENYON	55
12/1	DEPAUW	45
	KENYON	42
12/5	KENYON	47
	OBERLIN	51
Men's Basketball		
11/12	GENEVA	72
	KENYON	57
11/16	KENYON	53
	TRINE	79
11/17	KENYON	61
	ALBION	112
11/19	EARLHAM	69
	KENYON	59
11/26	WESTMINSTER	67
	KENYON	57
11/28	WOOSTER	90
	KENYON	70
12/1	DEPAUW	83
	KENYON	75
12/5	KENYON	69
	OBERLIN	84